



MUSCOGEE NATION NEWS

OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AND A PRODUCTION OF MVSKOKE MEDIA

Bicyclists face tough conditions, stay positive

Ocmulgee to Okmulgee Bicycle Tour faces tough conditions on third day

Sterling Cospers
MNN Reporter

OPELIKA, Ala. — The participants of the first Ocmulgee to Okmulgee Trail of Tears Bicycle Tour rode a 15-mile-stretch of highway from Bleeker to Opelika, Ala., June 4.

Cyclists John Beaver and Andrew (Raymond) Lowe, who rode mostly in the rain on the third day of the tour, were accompanied by three separate vehicle escorts driven by Justin Giles, Lowe's wife, Margie Burkhart, and members of Mvskoke Media.

Members of Mvskoke Media, which stayed with the tour until Horseshoe Bend June 11, spoke with riders Beaver and Lowe and their escort, Giles, after they arrived in Opelika.

"This is a great experience, a humbling experience. The emotion that comes as I imagine our ancestors walking this trail here; It is a great day to be Indian, [a] great day to be Muscogee (Creek)," Giles said.

Giles emphasized the cultural relevance of the site.

"This is right in the middle of



Justin Giles (right) provided a vehicle escort for John Beaver (left) during the Ocmulgee to Okmulgee bicycle tour which passed through rain, heat and high levels of humidity during the three-week journey.

Muscogee (Creek) country," he said. Marine veteran Lowe, who will ride with Beaver until the tour makes its stop at Ft. Toulouse, Ala., June 9, shared his feelings about the day's ride. "We kind of got wet," he said. "It was raining but it felt pretty good." Lowe said one challenge he's facing is his choice of bicycle. "The bike I have is what they call a 'work bike.' He (Beaver) has

a competition bike and mine is for different terrains I guess so it's a little harder to ride," he said. Lowe also noted the difference in level of preparation between himself and Beaver. "He's trained a little bit, and I haven't trained. Unlike John Beaver, I'm a jogger," Lowe said. Lowe's bicycle has a heavier frame, fewer gears, and wider tires with deeper tread, which makes it

versatile but not specialized for any particular terrain. Lowe did note a couple of positive aspects about his bicycle. "This is preparing me for going back to jogging since I've quit that for about two years," he said. "I think I'm going to like it anyway when I get home. I'm thinking maybe I'll get one like John because his cruises pretty fast when we're riding." **SEE TOUR - 2**



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HIYUCE - LITTLE HARVEST MONTH



Development threatens area south of Ocmulgee

Sterling Cospers
MNN Reporter

MACON, Ga. — Conservationists are working to preserve an area south of the Ocmulgee National Monument in Macon, Ga., containing remnants and artifacts of ancient Muskogean culture. So far, various circumstances have kept housing developments, mining and several highway projects away from this land. While the Ocmulgee National Monument has been federally owned and protected for years, a culturally significant area south of the monument has limited protection due to fragmented ownership. In order to gain federal protection for this extended area, various organizations have started the process of getting it recognized as a national park. John Wilson and Chris Watson with the Ocmulgee National Park and Preserve Initiative, one of the organizations involved in this project, believe the Muscogee (Creek) Nation can help their efforts. **SEE PRESERVE - 2**

Division of Health preps for Urgent Care implementation

Media Release
MCN Division of Health

OKEMAH — The Creek Nation Community Hospital in Okemah is preparing for Urgent Care implementation to begin July 25, 2012. The change in patient flow through the Emergency Department took place June 26, 2012. MCN Division of Health now asks all patients to register in the main lobby at the front of the hospital. The purpose of these changes is to increase patient and employee safety, prepare for Urgent Care implementation and improve screening process for all patients presenting to the Emergency Department. When arriving to the Creek Nation Community Hospital, patients should expect:

- The back doors to the hos-



pital will remain locked at all times.

- Emergency vehicles only will utilize the back doors.
- Security will be stationed where patient registration is currently located.
- Patient flow will be as follows:
 - 1) Patient will enter the main lobby and register at Patient Registration window.
 - 2) Patient will be triaged by a registered nurse.
 - 3) Triage RN will call Emergency Room nurse that a patient is waiting in the lobby.
 - 4) Patient will be seen in ER according to severity of illness.

On July 25, two treatment areas will be available for patient convenience:

- The Emergency Department is open 24 hours a day and provides care for the emergent, critical and urgent patients. We will also have an Urgent Care area that will be open from 3 p.m. to 11 p.m. and will provide quick care to the less urgent and non-urgent patients.
- Once the Urgent Care is implemented the triage RN will notify either the Emergency Room nurse or Urgent Care nurse that a patient is waiting in the lobby.
- Criteria are currently being developed to determine what an emergency is and what is urgent.

For more information, contact Administrative Officer Sheryl Howell or Celesta Johnson toll free at 1-800-219-9458.

Mvskoke Radio to feature Speaker Alexander July 18

Gary Fife
MNN Editorial Assistant

OKMULGEE — The tribally produced half hour radio program, "Mvskoke Radio" has grown to a full hour the third Wednesday of each month. Broadcast at 9:30 a.m., on KOKL 1240 AM in Okmulgee, Mvskoke Radio's hour-long program is an effort from Mvskoke Media to increase service to Creek citizens. The July 18 show will feature Muscogee (Creek) National Council Speaker Sam Alexander. Listeners can call in with questions or comments for Alexander at 918-756-3646 during the hour-long program. For more information, contact Editorial Assistant and host of Mvskoke Media Gary Fife at 918-732-7643.





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REBECCA LANDSBERRY

EDITORIAL ASSISTANT

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CIRCULATION

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MEMBERS OF THE NATIVE AMERICAN JOURNALISTS ASSOCIATION

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Georgian cyclist shares experience with ‘Ocmulgee to Okmulgee’

COVINGTON, Ga. — Being in the right place at the right time is sometimes less about luck than it is heeding a call. And, rather than fame or fortune, the result can be something far more precious.

So it was when I heard about an historic event taking place last Saturday morning. Members of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation were coming by bus from tribal lands in Oklahoma and elsewhere to convene upon the sacred grounds of the Ocmulgee National Monument in Macon. The 80-100 citizens expected would be the largest gathering of Muscogee in Georgia since their forced relocation 200 years ago. Among dignitaries attending would be the Primary Chief, Second Chief, and Speaker of the Tribal Council – like having our President, Vice President and Speaker of the House on hand together.

John Beaver, director and curator of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Museum and Cultural Center, was to depart that morning by bicycle to retrace the “Trail of Tears” traveled by his people in 1836-37 on a forced march to an imposed new home in the west. With assistant director Justin Giles driving a support vehicle, the two men are on a three-week

mission to honor tribal history and reconnect newer generations with their ancestors. The actual Trail of Tears began from Fort Mitchell, Ala., as the Muscogee had ceded the last of their Georgia lands to the United States under the Treaty of Indian Springs in 1825. But, Beaver and Giles chose to start from Ocmulgee because of its sacred heritage.

The Muscogee Nation invited local cyclists to join Beaver to begin his ride. For reasons I couldn’t explain, I had to go. And, thankfully, my friend Eddie was quick to join me. With age, I’ve learned to err on the side of “yes” when adventure calls; this was a choice well made.

We arrived Saturday to a morning as bright and clear as any June day I can recall in Georgia, under a sky so deeply blue I wanted to reach out and touch it. A bus bearing the Great Seal of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation was parked near the steps of the park visitors’ center. Muscogee citizens, guests, and media assembled for an hour-long service during which US Park Service officials, Macon’s Mayor, Chief George Tiger, Second Chief Roger Barnett, Speaker of the Tribal Council Samuel Alexander, Beaver, and Giles each paid tribute to the oc-

casion.

Chief Tiger led the assembly in a stirring hymn chanted softly in Muscogee, after which he explained the song, written by his ancestors, foretold of an appointed land where someday his people would meet and have a reunion. That day had come to this place, and, there I was, moved in ways words cannot explain.

The forced removal of the Muscogee – as well as the Cherokee, Chickasaw, Choctaw, and Seminole – from their southern lands is a dark moment in American history that can never be undone. As a descendent of European Americans who willfully inflicted unspeakable pain and hardship, I stood with a heavy heart witnessing Saturday’s ceremony. But, there was no ill will among these good people who had travelled far in remembrance of tragic events. Instead, I felt warm embrace and reverent celebration of an enduring culture misguided abuse can never erase.

I’m puzzled by those in my country who abhor apology, as though admitting wrongs is a sign of weakness. A nation is but a collection of human beings. And, just as we are each individually imperfect, so too is the Unit-

ed States of America. The nation that forged the modern template for a democratic republic, fought twice to liberate the planet from tyrants, and continues to generously spread humanitarian aid is also the country that drove Native Americans from their ancestral lands and ripped Africans from their homeland and into slavery half a world away.

None of this darkens the brightest American achievements. But, I cannot ignore that these human tragedies were inflicted by this nation to whom I pledge allegiance. And, though I honor that allegiance, I have a higher calling to do right by all human beings, regardless of skin color, continent of origin, or religious faith.

Saying “I’m sorry,” isn’t only solace for the victims. Genuine regret is how we acknowledge the worst we are capable of when we allow self-righteousness to cloud the sober recognition of our limitations. To the Muscogee people, I am deeply sorry for the pain we caused you. And, I am eternally grateful for the healing you have brought to our shared history.

In your language, Mvto (thanks). Maurice Carter

PRESERVE

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

In the past, the MCN helped stop a proposed highway project that would have run through one of these areas. Once the tribe became involved, the federal government decided to protect a small region close to the main monument by placing it on the National Register of Historic Places.

“We were just thought of as radical environmentalists. When the nation got involved, it changed everything,” Wilson said.

Since the original highway plan was terminated, an attempt at building an airport entrance road near the previously proposed highway was stopped due to public opposition to a proposed tax hike to fund this project. Also, a housing development project in a nearby area was terminated due to the recent economic downturn.

The Preserve Initiative is now seeking more assured and cohesive protection for this area.

“We’ve been working together with multiple agencies to generate a conversation about what should take place to see that these resources are better attended to. What we’re proposing is a national park and preserve concept,” Watson said.

This proposed concept would help protect the portions of this area that are archeologically significant and determine which portions would be appropriate for recreation and hunting.

“The idea behind recreation is that the more people are able to access the river and these natural areas, the more they are going to care about seeing them protected,” Watson said.

While awaiting national park recognition for this area, the Preserve Initiative is still attempting to get small pieces of this area under various state entities for protection.

However, according to both Wil-



MNN/Sterling Cosper

Featured in the background is the Great Temple Mound at the Ocmulgee National Monument. Just south of this is the area conservationists are seeking to protect.

son and Watson, long-term state protection is not ideal for a variety of reasons.

“The state has been losing big pieces of their wildlife management areas because they only own less than half while the other half is leased. Things happen, the state budget gets bad and they can’t re-

sources of culturally relevant sites.

“[At] Brown’s Mount, pine beetles had gotten in. The state hired a logging company to take care of it and they [the company] set a loader and the trucks right on top of where a square earth lodge had been excavated not knowing it was an archeological site,” Wilson said.

He described another situation where an individual hired to oversee Macon’s Water Works Park, plowed an area known to have archeological sites on it.

“He was fired for that. If the National Park Service had owned it, it might not have been plowed,” Wilson said.

Another problem with state or private management of culturally significant places is that the agencies or individuals put in charge of these properties provide inaccurate or no information about their history.

“I’ve traveled around at mound sites and pointed out misinformation and they reply, ‘yeah well we haven’t changed it,’ ” Wilson said.

According to Wilson, the Brown’s Mount area was placed under the Museum of Arts and Sciences after his organization helped save it.

“They had tours that did not mention the historical significance at all,” he said.

Wilson believes that a consultant from the MCN would help fix this problem.

“Just one representative of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation with a presence here would have a lot of

influence,” he said.

Wilson and Watson are still in the initial phases of attempting to coordinate with the MCN on their hopes for national park status but made some progress at the Ocmulgee to Okmulgee Bicycle Tour kick off event at the Ocmulgee National Monument.

“We came to the event at the Ocmulgee Monument trying to make new contacts. We were thrilled with who we met there,” said Wilson.

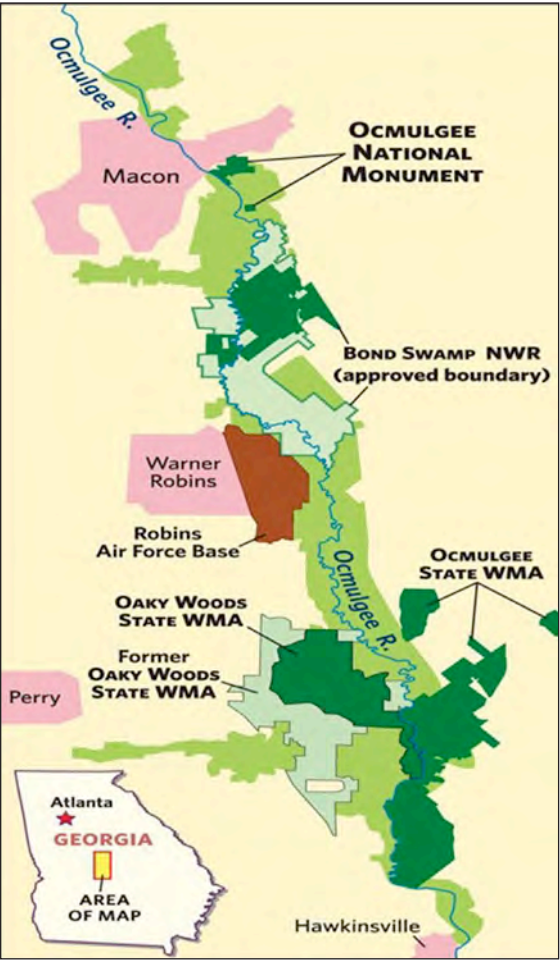
According to Wilson, they were able to meet with Speaker Sam Alexander of the National Council and Rep. Eddie LaGrone who was involved in helping stop the highway project years ago.

“We really need to get a good presentation together for them,” he said.

Watson expressed his excitement about their initial contact with the MCN and stressed its important role in preserving these areas.

“It was very rewarding for me, to [have] the Muscogee (Creek) Nation come out for their bike ride, and I think that if it become, an annual event it will be a wonderful thing.”

“You guys were they key people that kept the highway from being built and have helped protect these areas for so long. The more you are involved, the more it bodes well for the future of the river and the cultural resources,” he said.



new,” Watson said.

Wilson described several circumstances that suggest that federal rather than state and local governments might be the best caretaker

COMMUNITY CALENDAR JULY 2012

MCN CLOSED FOR JULY 4 HOLIDAY

OKMULGEE — The Muscogee (Creek) Nation Capitol Complex will be closed Wednesday, July 4 in observance of Independence Day.

VASO EXHIBIT ON DISPLAY THROUGH JULY 6

OKMULGEE — The Muscogee (Creek) Nation Museum & Cultural Center and the Smithsonian Institution National Museum of the American Indian (NMAI) Native Words, Native Warriors will be on display in the Veterans' Building located on the MCN Complex through July 6. The exhibit is free and open to the public from 8 a.m. – 5 p.m., Monday through Friday.

For more information please call VASO at 918-732-7744 or visit the Native Words, Native Warriors website: <http://nmai.si.edu/education/codetalkers/> Smithsonian National Museum of the American Indian: <http://nmai.si.edu/home/>



SPIRIT OF OKLAHOMA FOOTBALL CAMP SET FOR JULY 6-7

WELEETKA — The second annual Spirit of Oklahoma Football Camp is set for July 6-7, 2012 at the Weleetka Football Field in Weleetka.

University of Oklahoma Sooner Football great Jamelle Holieway and friends will be conducting the one-day camp for youth ages 8-16.

The camp is geared to host youth within the 35-40 mile radius of Weleetka.

Last year, the camp was host to 106 youth and the numbers are expected to double for 2012.

For more information, contact Sandi Golden 405-786-2635 or 918-623-6437.

MCN GENERAL ELECTION SET FOR JULY 7

OKMULGEE — The Muscogee (Creek) National Council general election is set for July 7, 2012.

In Creek District, a run-off between National Council candidates Dode Barnett and Dean Tiger.

All polling precincts will be open from 7 a.m.-7 p.m.

OIC SPECIAL MEETING SET FOR JULY 9

OKMULGEE —The Okmulgee Indian Community will conduct a general meeting July 9. Topics of discussion include proposed amendments.

According to OIC bylaws, "The proposed amendment shall be read aloud at the special meeting, and community members shall be given the opportunity to discuss the proposed amendment(s) at the special meeting. At the subsequent special meeting to vote on the amendment(s), only the proposed amendment(s) that has been presented to the community members in accordance with this article may be considered."

MVSKOKE LANGUAGE IMMERSION CAMP SET FOR JULY 9-13

OKMULGEE — The Mvskoke Language Program is currently planning an immersion camp for 31 kindergarten through fifth grade students.

The camp will be July 9-13, 2012 from 9 a.m. - 3 p.m., at the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Human Development Building.

The theme for the camp this year is

Creek Churches. The students will be learning how churches are conducted as well as learning phrases related to church and will learn Creek hymns. Student will also take a day to visit some of the churches and feast on a traditional meal.

For more information or for an application, call (918) 732-7724.

TWIN HILLS GROCERY BINGO SET FOR JULY 14

TWIN HILLS —The Twin Hills Indian Community seniors will be having a grocery bingo Saturday, July 14 starting at 2 p.m. Bingo will be \$10 for a 10 game pack with specials for \$1. A concession will be available.

Twin Hills Community is located at the intersections of Hwys 16 & 52. Proceeds will benefit the senior trip to NICOA in Albuquerque, N.M.

For more information, call 918-527-5155.

OIC TO HOLD CANDIDATE FORUM AUG. 13

OKMULGEE — The Okmulgee Indian Community will host a candidate forum Monday, Aug. 13 during the general meeting.

CMCA Gathering set for Aug. 4 in Anaheim, Calif.

Media Release
CMCA

ANAHEIM, Calif. — The California Muscogee (Creek) Association will be hosting their annual California gathering Saturday, Aug. 4, 2012 at the Native American United Methodist Church located at 800 South Lemon, in Anaheim, Calif., (on the corner of South Street).

Representatives from several Muscogee (Creek) Nation offices will be attending the gathering where attendees will have the opportunity to learn about programs available to out-of-state citizens. The event is free and will feature a potluck lunch.

MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION FAMILY VIOLENCE PREVENTION PROGRAM PRESENTS:

TEEN DATING VIOLENCE 101

JULY 10, 2012

Location: Wetumka High School Auditorium
410 East Benson
Wetumka, OK 74883

Time: Registration 8:00 a.m.
Workshop 8:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.
LUNCH WILL BE PROVIDED
Courtesy of MCN Business Enterprise

JULY 11, 2012

Location: Bacone College (Wacoche Hall)
2299 Old Bacone Road
Muskogee, OK 74403

Time: Registration 8:00 a.m.
Workshop 8:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.
LUNCH ON YOUR OWN

This is a free training workshop that highlights the dynamics of dating violence, and specifically discusses how educators, parents, and youth providers can effectively work together to help teen victims.

Topics covered: the prevalence and dynamics of teen dating violence, warning signs of dating violence, technology and dating abuse, obstacles to ending an abusive relationship, being a teen-friendly provider, safety planning, and legal remedies.



**Training Facilitators: Kelley Hampton, Technical Assistance Specialist- Break the Cycle
Morgan Lynn, Technical Assistance Attorney- Break the Cycle**

Kelley and Morgan develop and facilitate trainings for service providers working with youth, focusing on creating effective programs to engage youth and address dating violence. Kelley and Morgan also work with community-based organizations, local governments, and schools to create comprehensive policies to prevent and respond to dating violence.

TO REGISTER OR FOR MORE INFORMATION

Contact Mitzi Pope 918.732.7869

Grant signs letter of intent for Southwestern College

Darren DeLaune
MNN Sports Reporter

WINFIELD, Kansas — Raquel Grant was taught to play basketball by watching her family play. She looked up to her cousins to learn about this great sport and practiced every day to be better.

Now she is at the age where there are children younger than her that are looking up to her to learn how to get better and what to do to succeed.

And with her signing to Southwestern College in Winfield, Kansas, Grant is only going to gain a bigger fan base and have even more kids looking up to her as she takes her basketball game to the next level.

Grant will be a “Mound-builder” in the fall when she reports to the NAIA Division II school. Her new team is known for their fast breaks (run and gun) style of basketball. A type of basketball that Grant feels she will fit in perfectly.

“It is not too big, and it is not to small,” Grant said. “The style of basketball that Southwestern plays is a style that best fits me. There were other schools that were wanting me here in Oklahoma, but Southwestern gave me the best opportunity with what I want to do with basketball and what I want to go into for my major.”

Wewoka will be missing this great talent for the next basketball season. Grant was the rock as well as the floor general for the Wewoka Tigers in all the years that she played.

“I felt it was my job to set the tone for my team,” Grant said. “I kept my team motivated to play their best and to give no less than 100 percent.”

Coach Wesley Wood knows what Southwestern will be getting and he is very happy for her and her next chapter in her life.

“Raquel started a new and great tradition for us here at Wewoka,” Wood said. “She knew what to do to make our team better, and did what it takes to win. She was really good at getting everyone motivated. She was our leader and captain, a very humble person and deserves everything that she gets. Southwestern is getting a great basketball player, but overall, a great person when Raquel suits up with them next season.”

Grant wishes nothing but the best for her former team in the years to come.

She also wants to be remembered for her hard work and striving to get to where she is at.

“Hard work is what helped me to get here,” Grant said. “I believed in myself and strived to make myself better. I want to be remembered for doing that. I am going to show everyone that you can come from a little school and still go to college. Anybody can go anywhere they want to and succeed. It all depends on how much heart you have and how much you can push yourself.”

“I am going to continue to push myself not only for basketball, but for my degree. This is a new experience for me and goals to be reached.”

Grant will study science and business while at Southwestern.

Grant (Creek) parents are Lori Proctor and Mandrill Grant. Her clan is Wind and her tribal town is Muskogee.



Photo submitted/Lori Proctor
Raquel Grant signs her letter of intent to play basketball for Southwestern College in Winfield, Kansas.

Cancer Care Community Education offered in Sapulpa through August

Media Release
MCN Division of Health

SAPULPA — The Native Navigators will host cancer continuum sessions in the northern area of MCN at the Sapulpa Creek Indian Community Center.

The educational session will be held through Aug. 2, 2012 on Tuesday and Thursday evenings, from 6 p.m. – 8 p.m. Attached is a schedule of the educational workshops to be held at the Sapulpa Creek Indian Community Center at 1020 N. Brown, in Sapulpa, Okla.

Thursday, July 5 – Get on the Path to Colon Health

Tuesday, July 17 – Get on the Path to Prostate Health

Thursday, July 19 – Get on the Path to Cervix Health

Tuesday, July 24 - Get on the Path to Lung Health Survivorship:

Thursday, July 26 – Side Effects (NACES)

Tuesday, July 31– Survivors’ Support Circles

Comfort/Palliative Care:

Thursday, Aug. 2 – Wills and Advance Directive

The navigators are Loretta Denny 918-441-6049 and Patricia Coachman 918-441-6048, office 918-758-2710. Debra Isham is the project manager.

Everyone 18 years or older will receive a \$10 gift card after each session for participation.

For more information, call 918-441-6048 or 918-441-6049.

Creek boxer proves successful in the ring



MNN/Gerald Wofford
Referee Gerald Ritter raises Muscogee (Creek) boxer Darren DeLaune's arm in victory. The Native American fighter made his debut in Oklahoma City, June 16. DeLaune's opponent, Jimmy Lane, is left of Ritter.

Tribal employee shows he can fight with TKO

Gerald Wofford
MNN Feature Writer

OKLAHOMA CITY — Darren DeLaune, the Muscogee (Creek) boxer who has not yet determined a ‘fighting nickname,’ was successful in his fight debut, having disposed of opponent Jimmy Lane by a technical knockout (TKO) in the first of four rounds held at the Cox Convention Center in Oklahoma City Saturday, June 16.

“He was a brawler,” said DeLaune after the fight when asked about Lane’s fighting skills. “To me, he was swinging for the fences and wanted to finish the fight early. He did get a couple of good hits on me, I have to say, which made me have to fight him more inside.”

The fight began at a hectic pace as the two combatants sized the other up before planning their attack in full force . Both saw early action as the two exchanged brutal punches and took the best each had to offer.

In the first round, Lane was able to hit DeLaune with a classic right hook to the temple on the side of the forehead and the blow stopped DeLaune for a second before he shook it off.

“I do not remember the hit,” DeLaune said. “I do remember being down and getting back up pretty quick.”

Referee Gerald Ritter gave DeLaune the regulatory standing eight-count before the round continued as the Muscogee maunder knew this fight would allow him to hit Lane on the inside and weaken him there. As the round continued and came down to the last 30 seconds, DeLaune was able to land a powerful right hand to the side of Lane’s midsection, the left side of the ribs to be exact, and some fans in the stands admit they heard a ‘pop’ as the climatic first round came to an end.

“I went to my corner and my trainer, B.J. Waggnor, told me, “Quit lunging when I throw my punches.”

As the break came to an end, DeLaune prepared for the second round as he stood from his stool and was ready to move to the middle of the ring. DeLaune looked at Lane from across the ring noticed that he wasn’t standing up to begin the round. Lane gave Ritter and DeLaune a motion that he was finished for the day. The fight was officially stopped as Ritter announced that the young Creek fighter was the victor.

“I didn’t really know what to think at first,” said DeLaune as he recalled the memorable night. “Before I knew it, the fight was over and Ritter was raising my arm declaring me the winner.”

DeLaune exemplified good sportsmanship as he went to Lane’s corner and shook his opponent’s hand. DeLaune remembers

Lane confessing, “You broke my ribs,” and realized his motivation for not continuing.

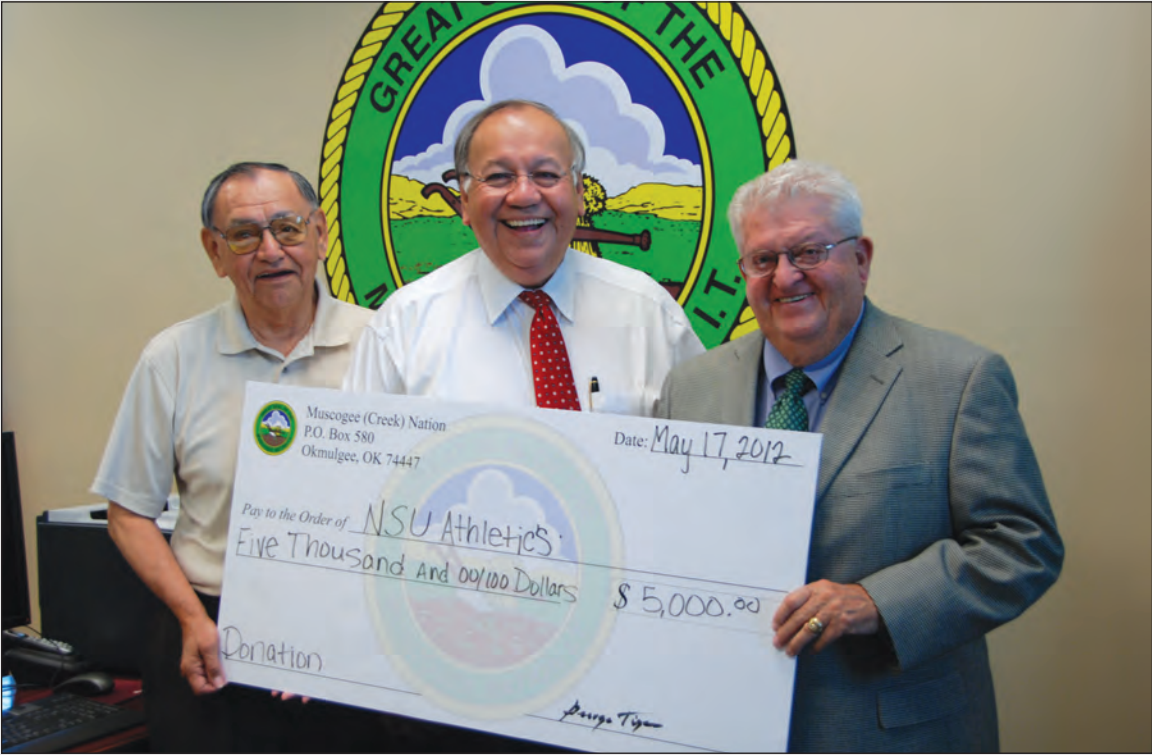
After his first fight, DeLaune knows he still has a lot of work to do. “Yes I did get the TKO,” DeLaune said, “but there were a lot of mistakes in this fight... I went in there swinging at him too and that was the wrong thing to do. I am glad that it came out in my favor but in this sport you cannot be successful by doing only that. So if I have another fight, I promise that I will listen to my trainer and do a better job at throwing my punches.”

The fan support for DeLaune was tremendous as supporters from the Muscogee (Creek) Nation were in attendance. Muscogee (Creek) Nation Principal Chief George Tiger even honored DeLaune with a tribal flag that was displayed proudly as DeLaune entered the ring and was even adorned on him as he left the ring.

“That was a great honor in itself,” DeLaune said. “To be able to have your tribe’s flag draped around your shoulders, words cannot describe that moment.”

DeLaune’s future in the sport is to be determined. “They [the promoters] asked me to fight again in September, but for right now I am going to take a break and then talk with my manager and trainer (Waggnor) and we’ll discuss my fight future” DeLaune said.

MCN makes \$5,000 donation to NSU Athletics



MNN/Gary Fife
Principal Chief George Tiger presents a donation of \$5,000 to the Northeastern State University Athletic Association officials, May 17. In presenting the check, Tiger said, “We feel like, with the history the tribe has with students attending Northeastern, it was really natural to be able to help the causes at Northeastern, which is certainly a school that’s been good to the Creek Nation.”

OBITUARIES

RICHARD DUNN



STILLWELL — Richard Mark Dunn, passed from this life on Saturday, June 16, 2012 at the age of 55 in Stillwell, Okla.

Richard was born Oct. 26, 1956 in Okmulgee, Okla., to Wesley Dunn Sr., and Joan (Sunny) Dunn.

Richard grow up in the Nuyaka area in Okmulgee, Oklahoma. He attended and graduated in 1975 at Sequoyah High School in Tahlequah, Oklahoma. He joined the U. S. Army in 1976 and was station at Fort Sill in Lawton, Oklahoma and served two tours in Germany. He served for 16 years and received an honorable discharged in 1992.

Richard worked at Cherokee Nation and later at Schwans Global Supply in Stilwell, Oklahoma for nine years. He married his high school sweetheart Dora Drywater Smith on Oct. 27, 1975 in Muskogee, Okla.

He enjoyed fishing, hunting, spending time with family and watching Sequoyah High School play football and basketball. He was a dedicated OU fan.

He was preceded in death by his parent Wesley Dunn Sr., and Joan (Sunny) Dunn, one sister Mary Ann Dunn, two brothers Wesley Dunn Jr., and Johnny Dunn, one grandson, Dayton Dunn, and two nephews, Thomas Dunn Jr., and John Haney.

Richard is survived by his loving wife of 36 years Dora Dunn, three sons, Mark Dunn, Timothy Dunn, wife Deana and Edwin Dunn, wife Dacia, one daughter Nakayla Dunn all of Tahlequah, Okla., three brothers, Thomas Dunn, wife Mary of Okmulgee, Otis Dunn of Okmulgee, George Dunn Sr., wife Barbara of Morris, Okla., two sisters, Kathy Haney husband, Willie Sr., of Morris, Okla., and Josephine Haneberg and husband Stacy of Muskogee, Okla., mother-in-law Leola Gardner of Welling, Okla., and some

very special people in his life, Eliza Sanders of Tahlequah, Okla., Elsie Pritchett and Regina Tidwell both of Welling, Okla., seven grandsons Rosco, Daylon, Timothy II, Johnny, Edwin II, Haden all of Tahlequah, Okla., Warren of Coweta, Okla., and two granddaughters Tyleasha and Jenna of Tahlequah, Okla., and a host of aunts, uncles, nephews, nieces, cousins and friends.

Visitation was held Tuesday, June 19, 2012 from noon to 8 p.m. Services were held Wednesday, June 20, 2012 at 2 p.m., with Rev. Bill Holcomb officiating.

Both the visitation and services were held at the Reed-Culver Funeral Home located at 117 West Delaware Street in Tahlequah.

VELMA HARLEY



HENRYETTA — Velma Jane Harley, a resident of Henryetta, passed away in the early morning hours of Saturday, June 9, 2012 in Henryetta at the age of 66. Velma was born May 30, 1946 in Henryetta to Benny Taylor and Ella Walker Taylor.

Velma grew up in Henryetta and attended Graham Public Schools, where she graduated from High School. Janie loved working crossword puzzles, and thoroughly enjoyed playing bingo with friends.

She is preceded in death by her husband, Leo Harley, and her mother and father.

Velva is survived by: a daughter, Gloria Jacobs and husband Steve of Bixby, a son, Leo Harley, Jr., of Henryetta, six grandchildren: Heather Jacobs, Michelle Jacobs, Jamie Jacobs, Steven Jacobs, Amanda Jacobs, and Marcus Eugene Harley, two great grandchildren: Kelie and Gooden Zakina, two brothers: Newman Taylor of Henryetta and Roley Taylor of Talihina, one sister: Hattie Birdcreek of Henryetta, and by numerous other extended family and many good friends.

Viewing and visitation were

held at Shurden Funeral Home on Tuesday, June 12, 2012 from 10 a.m.-5 p.m.

A funeral service was held Wednesday, June 13, 2012 at 3 p.m., in the Shurden Funeral Home Chapel with Rev. Mitchell Taylor officiating.

LORETTA ANN “DE” SLOAN



OKMULGEE — Loretta Ann “De” Sloan, a resident of Okmulgee, passed away Wednesday, May 16, 2012 at the age of 80.

She was born Aug. 1, 1931 to Harber and Betty (McHenry) Johnson in Okmulgee, Oklahoma.

She was a member of the First Christian Church in Okmulgee.

She was preceded in death by her parents, Harber and Betty Johnson; husband, Jack Sloan; daughter, Kim Sloan; son, David Sloan; grandson, Simon Sloan; three sisters, Carol Neido, Betty Neal and Patsy Ruth Wahnee and two brothers, Bo and Cy Johnson.

Survivors include her two daughters, DeeAnn Denney and husband Ken of Crosby, Texas and Kay Sloan of Okmulgee; three sisters, Dorothy Ticheahkie of Lawton, Charlene Nevaquaya of Lawton and Darlene Robertson of Oakland, Calif.; two brothers, Ed Johnson of Norman and Keeper Johnson and wife, Martha of Morris; eight grandchildren, Melissa Denney, Andria Flowers, David Lee Sloan, Michael Sloan, Sheldon Sloan, Ryan Johnson, Tanna Mills and Kelly Johnson; five great grandchildren, Shayleigh Sloan, Layne Sloan, Jase Flowers, Jude Ginn and Lola Ginn and numerous nieces, nephews and other relatives.

Services were held 11 a.m. Monday, May 21, 2012 at the Belvin Baptist Church in Okmulgee. Burial followed the service at the Okmulgee Cemetery under the direction of the Shurden-Jackson Funeral Home in Okmulgee.

Visitation was May 20, 2012 from 1-6 p.m., at the Shurden-Jackson Funeral Home in Okmulgee.

Coming and Going in Indian Country

Joy Harjo
MNN Contributor

OKMULGEE — It’s summer and Indian stories are in the making everywhere. The days are long and languid and the nights are warm and full of singing, full of story potential. Everybody’s singing stomp dance, powwow, church, and humming popular songs with ear buds in their ears. And it’s not just two-legged humans but all the other humans: birds, frogs, insects and too many mosquitoes.

One of these days I’d like to start collecting some of those contemporary “old” Indian stories. Many of them have their beginnings in the summer, but are usually told on long winter nights. One category of these stories that you’ll never find in the publishing world is painting stories. Like many of you, (some of you behaved, like my sister Margaret) I lived through those wild Indian parties and 49s as a high school student at the Institute of American Indian Arts and a student at the University of New Mexico. I see them now as part of a test, a kind of coming of age. Some of us made it through, barely, some of our friends...didn’t... and others are still stuck there trying to catch the thrill of the first high. Some good stories came out of the journey because we needed them to make it. Laughter is the grease that slides us through difficulty, even tragedy.

Painting was a tradition at those parties. The first person to pass out was the canvas. We young women would dig through our purses and backpacks and pull out fingernail polish, tape, glue, cotton balls and any other items that might be decorative. (I hear superglue later made an appearance.) Oh, and scissors if the painting posse was being especially devious. And then the victim was...decorated on the face, arms, and sometimes...other...places. Imagine waking up and looking in the mirror. One of the best painting stories was told to me by an Umatilla man who has many, many contemporary “old” stories. He told of waking up to the sun on his face, naked on a roof without

a ladder, his body painted... everywhere.

And then there’s the classic kind, like the story my cousin George Coser, Jr. told us the other day as we drove downtown Tulsa on the way to the Oklahoma Jazz Hall of Fame. “There used to be a church over there. They used to serve food for the homeless,” he said as he pointed to a parking lot. Then he told of a friend of his driving over to pick him and a buddy up to take them out to lunch. They were excited and as they headed to Tulsa imagining all their favorite eating places there. His friend pulled up to the church and next thing he knew they were standing in line for their free lunch! Now that’s a real Indian story!

Then there are the other kinds of stories that feed the soul of our tribal culture in a different way. Those are the stories we heard at the Thlopthlocco Tribal Town meeting out near Okemah, attended by ceremonial grounds and other cultural leaders a few weeks ago. These were the deep philosophical stories of the roots of meaning for our people, with the overhanging question of how are we going to continue as a Mvskoke people, when many of the children do not know their clans or aren’t brought into the function of the clans? There is never one answer but many answers, many stories. Another important story we heard was by the Mvskoke Food Sovereignty Initiative, about the restoration of and reculturing of plants that have traveled with us and nurtured us through our human stories.

Mvto, mvto to all the culture bearers, those who choose to remember in a time of forgetting. Mvto to the spirits of all the stories that carry us to laughter, to deeper understanding of our predicament, our place here on this Earth.



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Wetumka Head Start now accepting applications for 2012-2013

Media Release
MCN Head Start

WETUMKA — The Muscogee (Creek) Nation Head Start in Wetumka is now accepting applications for the 2012-2013 school year. The head start is located at 333 S. Washita, in Wetumka and the phone number is 405-452-1180.

Hours of operation are 9 a.m.-3 p.m., Monday through Friday with the morning bus route starting at 8 a.m.

Transportation will be provided for pick-up and drop-off.

Requirements for the program include: parents income verification, (last year's income tax, pay stubs, W-2 form, TANF letter, SSI Letter, or statement from employer), child's immunization record, child's medical card, child's CDIB (if applicable) child's birth certificate, child's social security card.

The center supervisor and lead teacher have a Bachelor's Degree in Early Childhood Development and Education. The teacher has been in the field for over 29 years and the center supervisor has been in head start for over 17 years. The teacher assistant has a Child Development Associates degree (CDA).

The Head Start Program is a comprehensive program that emphasizes child development. The program prepares children to start public school with a willingness to learn. With children starting Head Start before going into public school, statistics show a wide improvement in all areas of learning. The program also works in partnership with the parents and families so they can be self-sufficient and advocates for the children.

The head start works with the children to teach respect, communicate and get along with others, while developing friendships and trust.

Head start centers also provide a variety of activities and opportunities to promote physical development and fitness of children indoor and outdoor in fine motor and gross motor development. Activities encouraging observation, experimentation and problem solving appropriate to the individual development levels and learning styles of each child are also offered.

For more information, contact Janice Birdcreek at 405-452-1180.

MCN Reintegration Program seeks feedback on “Project to Overcome”

Media Release
MCN Reintegration Program

HENRYETTA — The Muscogee (Creek) Nation Reintegration Program was recently awarded the opportunity to plan for the construction or renovation of a correctional or correctional alternative facility.

Our program works with incarcerated offenders and those recently released from prison to provide an easier and more productive reentry into the community. The grant we received was provided by the Bureau of Justice Assistance and is intended to assist our tribe in determining if a facility is needed.

Currently, we provide housing assistance for offenders through third party vendors and pay for their rent for four months.

However, we believe we could help the client to become more successful and in turn strengthen families and create safer communities by having our own facility that embraces our culture and provides more opportunities for growth and productivity.

We would like to get some input from the citizens in the communities to determine if safer and healthier environments can be accomplished

by creating a halfway house or transitional living facility with the inclusion of counseling, vocational training, educational attainment, and positive support for offenders.

The following are the dates and times program representatives will be in local communities

For all of those who participate in a survey, a ticket will be issued for the chance to win a gift card.

- July 16 at 7 p.m., Okemah Indian Community
 - Cromwell, Weleetka, Wetumka, Holdenville, Dustin and Okfuskee
- July 26 at 6 p.m., Eufaula Indian Community
 - Checotah, Muscogee, Yardeka and Hanna
- Aug. 7 at 7 p.m., Oklahoma City Indian Community
- Aug. 13 at 7 p.m., Okmulgee Indian Community
 - Duck Creek, Twin Hills, Wilson, Dewar and Morris
- Aug. 14 at 7:45 p.m., Glenpool Indian Community
 - Koweta, Tulsa, Sapulpa, Kellyville and Bristow

For more information, contact MCN Reintegration Program Project Coordinator Amber Nelson at 918-652-2676, ext. 110.

MCN School Clothing Program applications now available

Media Release
MCN Social Services

OKMULGEE — The Muscogee (Creek) Nation School Clothing Program 2012/2013, is now accepting applications until Oct. 26, 2012 at 5 p.m.

This program is open to all Muscogee (Creek) citizen students no matter where they live in the United States.

The guidelines of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation School Clothing Program are as follows:

- Only one application per family will be accepted.
- Child must have been previously enrolled as a Muscogee (Creek) citizen before making application. Applicants must submit copies of each child's Muscogee (Creek) Nation Citizenship Card or a print out from the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Citizenship Office.
- The student must be at least three years old and enrolled in a

certified Head Start (not a day care) or be four years old and enrolled in a public/private school program, pre-K through the 12th grade.

All students Head Start through 12th grade must have a school official complete the School Enrollment Form that will be provided with the application. Home schooled children ages 5-18 are also eligible and must provide accredited curriculum or original receipts of textbooks purchased, and a notarized affidavit (also must be signed by the individual providing the education). The affidavit will be provided with the application.

- The primary custodial parent or legal guardian must complete the application.

Applications may be picked up at the following locations:

- The School Clothing Program office, located behind the

Social Services building at 2971 N. Wood Drive, Okmulgee, OK 74447

- Any MCN Child Development Center
- Any MCN Indian Community Center

- An application is available for download at: www.muscogeenation-nsn.gov

- Call 918-549-2473 or toll free at 1-800-482-1979 for an application to be mailed or faxed directly.

All applications must be returned or mailed to: School Clothing Program, P.O. Box 580, Okmulgee, OK. 74447.

Please do not fax or e-mail the applications.

For more information, contact the School Clothing Program at 918-549-2473 or toll free at 1-800-482-1979, ext. 2473.

MCN Social Services Elder AC Program now available

Media Release
MCN Social Services

OKMULGEE — The air conditioner program provides window units for enrolled Creek citizens 60 years of age or older who have no air conditioning or existing air conditioning is inadequate.

Those under 60 years of age who suffer from or are otherwise prone to chronic illness are also eligible to apply. Both renters and homeowners may apply. Citizens are responsible for pick up and installation of air conditioners.

- Applicants must be enrolled Muscogee (Creek) tribal members

- At least one member of the household must be considered as vulnerable:

- Elder (60 years or older)
- Medically needy as determined by a qualified health practitioner

Required Documents

- Air Conditioner application (may be completed at office or downloaded from MCN website)
- Citizenship cards for all household members (CDIB cards not accepted)
- If medically needy, a statement

from a medical doctor of medical necessity

- Notarized statement from a non-family member that the applicant's home has no air conditioner or existing air conditioner is inadequate
- Additional documents may be required based on individual circumstances.

For questions or additional information contact Social Services at 918-549-2445 or 1-800-482-1979.

MCN Social Services Energy Assistance Program now available

Media Release
MCN Social Services

OKMULGEE — Applications for the MCN Energy Assistance Program are now being processed. Applicants should submit a copy of the following documents required to determine eligibility:

- LIHEAP Participants
 - Current electric bill (must be in applicant and/or spouse's name)
 - Citizenship card(s) or CDIB card(s) for all household members; if non-native, include driver's license or birth certificate
 - Social Security card(s) for all household members
 - Income or lack of income for all household members 18 years or older (check stub, unemploy-

ment benefits verification, and food stamp or commodities verification will be accepted)

- Written statement stating: I, __, authorize Creek Nation Social Services to sign my application on my behalf. I have not received assistance for my cooling bill from any other agency, community center, etc., within the past 12 months. Applicant must sign, date, and leave a phone number.

Tribal Energy Participants

- Current electric bill (must be in applicant and/or spouse's name)
- Citizenship card(s) for all household members; if non-native, include driver's license or birth cer-

tificate

- Social Security card(s) for all household members

- Written statement stating: I, __, authorize Creek Nation Social Services to sign my application on my behalf. Applicant must sign, date, and leave a phone number.

Once the applicant has received an approval letter, he/she will need to bring the approval letter to the office on any Friday in July to pick up their educational material bag.

For questions or additional information contact Social Services at 918-549-2445 or 1-800-482-1979.



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For more information contact: Tammí Reed-Barnett at (918)732-7883 OR email: tammirb@muscogeenation-nsn.gov

For questions, call 918-758-1439.

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION
OKMULGEE DISTRICT

IN THE MATTER OF:)
)
)
)
)

C.B., DOB: 07-08-98

Alleged Deprived Child.

JUVENILE SUMMONS

THE MUSCOGEE NATION to: Cheyenne Marks, Natural Father to C.B.

DISTRICT COURT
FILED
JULY 31 PM 1 09
MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION
DONALD BEAVER
COURT CLERK

CASE NO. JV-2012-05

YOU ARE HEREBY NOTIFIED that a Petition has been filed in the Court of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation alleging that the above-named child is a deprived child and that, as the parent of said child, you have been named as the Respondent, all as more fully set out in the Petition.

YOU ARE THEREFORE ORDERED TO APPEAR at the Courtroom of the District Court of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation, Okmulgee, Oklahoma, on the **10TH day of July, 2012 at the hour of 9:30 a.m. for an Adjudication Hearing** and to there remain subject to the call of the Court until discharged so that you may be advised of the allegations and may answer that you admit or deny the allegations of the Deprived Petition.

You may seek the advice of any attorney on any matter relating to this action at your own expense. Or, if you are qualified as indigent, an attorney can be appointed for you.

IF YOU FAIL TO ATTEND THIS HEARING, YOUR PARENTAL RIGHTS MAY BE ADVERSELY AFFECTED AND YOU MAY BE CITED FOR CONTEMPT OF COURT AND A BENCH WARRANT MAY BE ISSUED FOR YOUR ARREST.

Issued this 31st day of May, 2012.

Lobie King
Deputy Court Clerk
Muscogee (Creek) Nation District Court

[Seal]

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION
OKMULGEE DISTRICT

DISTRICT COURT
FILED

2012 MAY 15 PM 2 1

MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NAT
DONNA BEAVER
COURT CLERK

In re the marriage of LOPEZ:)
)
)
KATHERINE ELIZABETH LOPEZ,)
)
)
Petitioner,)
)
)
vs.)
)
)
CESAR EDUARDO CHACON-LOPEZ)
)
)
Respondent.)

Case No. DV-2012-51

Judge of the District Court

SERVICE OF SUMMONS
BY PUBLICATION NOTICE

Muscogee (Creek) Nation To: Cesar Eduardo Chacon-Lopez

TAKE NOTICE that you have been sued for divorce in the District Court of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation, Okmulgee District, Case No. DV-2012-51, styled In re the Marriage of Katherine Elizabeth Lopez, Petitioner and Cesar Eduardo Chacon-Lopez, Respondent. The action alleges that the petitioner is entitled to a *Decree of Dissolution of Marriage* from you based on the grounds of incompatibility.

You are notified that you must answer the *Petition* filed by the petitioner or appear at the hearing on the 17th day of July 2012 at 1:30 o'clock p.m. Failure to respond and/or attend will result in the allegations contained in the *Petition* being taken as true and judgment will be entered against you and in favor of petitioner as prayed for in her *Petition*.

Given under my hand and seal this 15th day of May, 2012.

Donna Beaver, Court Clerk
Muscogee (Creek) Nation, District Court, Okmulgee

RIVER SPIRIT *Casino*

P R E S E N T S

A photograph of the four members of the Nitty Gritty Dirt Band standing together. The text "NITTY GRITTY DIRT BAND" is overlaid in large, bold, yellow letters.

JULY 1 at 7 pm

The iconic and influential Nitty Gritty Dirt Band is widely credited for launching the rock/country sound born in the 60's!

With a career that spans five decades, these music pioneers paved the way with hits like "Fishin' in the Dark", their version of "Mr. Bojangles", "American Dream" and "Long Hard Road". Tickets \$30, \$40 & \$50.

A logo for "Rollin' ON THE RIVER" featuring the word "Rollin'" in a stylized font above "ON THE RIVER".

A promotional image for the "Country Gold TOUR". It features a guitar on a stool, a collage of five country music artists, and the text "Country Gold TOUR" and "featuring Leroy Van Dyke, Jim Ed Brown, Helen Cornelius, Jana Jae, Bobby Bare".

JULY 27 at 7 pm

Don't miss this special night featuring five classic country stars!

World renowned Leroy Van Dyke's hits include "Auctioneer" and "Walk on By". Jim Ed Brown boasts a versatile career as a recording artist and favorite Grand Old Opry star. Helen Cornelius is best known for her series of hit duets with Jim Ed Brown including, "I Don't Want to Have to Marry You" and "Morning Comes to Early". Jana Jae has earned the title "First Lady of Country Fiddle" and also starred on "Hee Haw".

Grammy-winning artist, Bobby Bare, sings all your favorites including, "Detroit City", "500 Miles" and "The Game of Triangles". Tickets \$30, \$40 & \$50

A portrait of country music star Tracy Lawrence wearing a black cowboy hat and a blue shirt. The text "TRACY LAWRENCE" is overlaid in large, bold, white letters.

AUG 24 at 7 pm

Join country music star Tracy Lawrence for a night of toe-tappin', boot-scootin' musical entertainment.

Tracy Lawrence first burst onto the country music scene in the early 90's with four Top 10 country hits from his CD, *Sticks and Stones*, and had more than 30 singles on the Billboard Country Music Charts. Fans will be treated to songs from his new CD as well as classic favorites such as "Sticks and Stones," "Alibis," and "If the World Had a Front Porch". Tickets are \$25, 35, & \$50.

A square QR code located in the bottom left corner of the page.

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A graphic of a yellow ticket stub with the text "BUY TICKETS" and the number "8330".



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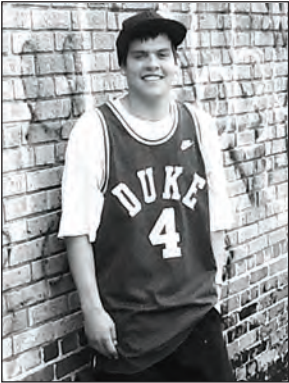
The Muscogee Nation News Congratulates The Graduates of the Class of 2012

Jeffrey Quintin Allen

Preston High School

Jeffrey is involved in Golf, Cross Country, Baseball, Spanish Club, Advanced Computers and member of South Heights Assembly of God Church in Sapulpa and is the son of Jeff and Tara Allen.

He is of the Racoon Clan.



Andrew Jacob Baer

University of Oklahoma
Master's Degree in Library and Information Studies

Andrew is a member of Helvpe Ceremonial Ground and the son of Jeremiah and Sherri Lynn Fields Baer.



Tina Marie Barnard

Northern Arizona University - Bachelor's Degree in Advertising, Public Relations and minor in Biology

Tina attends Grace Assembly Church in Parker, Ariz.

She is the daughter of Rick and Linda Barnard and granddaughter of Gene and Bea Grayson.



Nausoche Jane Barnett

Okemah High School

Nausoche volunteers with Children's Miracle Network and is a member of Alabama Ceremonial Ground. She is the daughter of Wilma Barnett.



Danielle Rene' Bear

Henryetta High School

Danielle was selected as an All-State participant in both fast and slow pitch for the 2011-2012 seasons as well as fast pitch softball Academic State Champs for 2010-2011 season. She was involved in National Honor Society and the Talent Search Program.

She attends New Tulsa Ceremonial Ground and is a member of Little Cussetah UMC. She is of the Nuyaka Tribal Town and the Wind Clan.

Danielle is the daughter of Daniel and Melissa Bear.

She will attend Connors State College where she signed a letter of intent to play softball.



Sophia Bencoma

Weleetka High School

Sophia played softball for three years and was a member of the Ladies Auxillary for the Weleetka Volunteer Fire Department.

She plans to attend Carl Albert State College in the fall to major in Pre-Veterinary Medicine.

Sophia is the daughter of David and Phyllis Bencoma.



William Jacob (Jake) Bender

Tecumseh High School

Jake attends Sallateeska Baptist Church. He is active in football baseball where he was named the defensive Player of the Year in 2012 earned the Senior Savage Pride Award. He was also awarded the Boyce Timmons Achievement Award from the Oklahoma Federation of Indian Women.

He is of the Bird Clan and is the son of Teresa Bender and the grandson of Bennie and Dee Bender.

He plans to attend Haskell Indian Nations University.



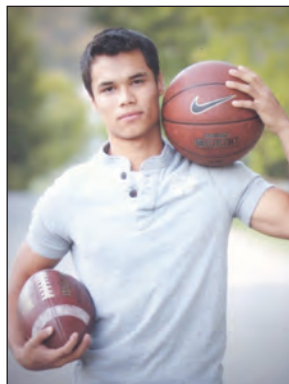
Kyle J. Bencoma

Weleetka High School

Kyle was active in football, basketball and track for four years, including all-district special teams, area and state accomplishments. He attends the First Baptist Church of Weleetka.

Kyle is the son of Phenie and the late Anthony Bencoma and the grandson of Marvin and Pam Brown, Sarah Wimey and Eugene Manley.

He plans to attend Oklahoma Baptist University in the fall and is undecided on a major.



Kyle S. Berryhill

Haskell Indian Nations University
Associate of Arts Degree in Liberal Arts

He is the son of Marian L. Berryhill and grandson of Robert J. Berryhill Sr., and Barbara (Coachman) Berryhill.

He is a member of Little Quarsarty Baptist Church near Cromwell. Kyle is also a member of Thlopth-locco Tribal Town and is of the Deer Clan.

He plans to contine his studies at Haskell to obtain a bachelor's degree in American Indian Studies.



Krystal Joy Berryhill

Anadarko High School

She attends First Caddo Baptist Church in Ft. Cobb, Okla. Krystal was a cheerleader and softball player at both Wetumka and Anadarko High School, and is a member of the Anadarko Lady Warriors 2012 Class 4A State Champion basketball team

She is the daughter of Angela Barnett and the late Robert Berryhill Jr., granddaughter of Robert Sr., and Barbara (Coachman) Berryhill of Wetumka, and the late Daniel & Jeanie Mae (Beaver) Barnett of Eufaula.

She plans to continue her education at Haskell Indian Nations University majoring in Business Administration.



Kristin Elaine Brown

Eastern Oregon University
Bachelor of Science Degree in Education

Kristin graduted with honors, Magna Cum Laude. She was a Muscogee (Creek) Nation Higher Education Scholar and a Don and Zolar Dunbar Scholar.



Kathalene Suzanne Carden

University of Oklahoma College of Nursing
Bachelor of Science Degree in Nursing

Kathalene is the daughter of Jeff and Beverly Carden and the granddaughter of Sue Morgan.

Kathalene graduated with academic distinction, was a member of the Dean's Honor Roll, President's Honor Roll, Sigma Theta Tau International Honor Society of Nursing and Gamma Delta Pi American Indian Sorority.

She attends New Tulsa Ceremonial Grounds and is of the Wind Clan.



Jayme Nicole Chuckluck

Northeastern State University in Broken Arrow

Bachelor's Degree in Criminal Justice

She is the daughter of Greg and Felicia Haynes Chuckluck and the granddaughter of Felix and Gloria Haynes and Bridge and the late Linda Chuckluck. She has one son, Gage.

She plans to continue her education and eventually attend law school.



Jimsey Fish Jr.

College of the Muscogee Nation

Associate Degree in Tribal Services

He is the son of Lynnelle Roberts and Jimsey Fish and the grandson of Terry "Skip" Roberts and Mona "Koko" and Wilbert Lowe and Mitchell and Lydia "Jimmie" Fish.

Jimsey was and honor roll student. He also won first place in basketball, softball and volleyball intramurals. He attends Glorieta Baptist Church and is of the Bear Clan.



Brittany Elizabeth George

Holdenville High School

She is the daughter of Kristi George and the late Gregory George of Holdenville. She is the sister of Logan George, the granddaughter of Lucy George and the late William George of Holdenville, Carolyn Cason of Glenpool and John and Patrice Cason of Mannford.

Brittany was a member of the National Honor Society as Secretary/Reporter, Yearbook Editor and Key Club Treasurer. She also participated in Oklahoma Girls State 2011.

She plans to attend Oklahoma State University in the fall where she has been selected to be in the Presidential Leadership Council.

She is of the Bird Clan and her ceremonial ground is New Tulsa



Hotvlkuce Valencia Harjo

Palos Verdes Peninsula High School

She is the daughter of Laura L. Harjo and Myran Yazzie, and the granddaughter of Duke and Ellen Harjo, and Tommy Yazzie and Arlinda Thomas.

She is the daughter of Angela Barnett and the late Robert Berryhill Jr., granddaughter of Robert Sr., and Barbara (Coachman) Berryhill of Wetumka, and the late Daniel & Jeanie Mae (Beaver) Barnett of Eufaula.

She is an artist, musician, dancer and photographer, and has shown her work in art exhibits throughout the Los Angeles area. Harjo has been involved with California Institute of Arts at Self Help Art and Graphics, and L.A.'s High School for Visual and Performing Arts.

Her ceremonial grounds are Kellyville and her family's church is High Spring. Her clan is Wolf and her tribal town is Tuskegee.

She plans to attend either El Camino College or Institute of American Indian Arts to study photography.



Natalie Michelle Hayes (Caesar)

Nicolet High School

Natalie is the daughter of Willard Hayes and Wanda Pounds.

Natalie has played the violin since the 4th grade and volunteers at the Wisconsin Humane Society caring for orphaned birds in the summer.

She plans to continue her education in music and pursue a degree in Psychology.



Daniel W. Ellis

Haskell Indian Nations University

Bachelor of Arts Degree in American Indian Studies

Daniel is the son of Ramona and Gary Ellis. He is of the former Tukvpvtce Ceremonial Ground and Tukvpvtce Tribal Town. He is of the Wotko (Raccoon) Clan.



Michael Yahv Fish

Kiefer High School

He is the son of Lynnelle Roberts and Jimsey Fish and the grandson of Terry "Skip" Roberts and Mona "Koko" and Wilbert Lowe and Mitchell and Lydia "Jimmie" Fish.

Michael has lettered three years in varsity basketball, one year in Track and Field, and one year in Varsity baseball. His senior year he named Athlete of the week by the Sapulpa Daily Herald, first team Indian All State, Frisco Conference Defensive Player Award, Frisco Conference Champions, District Champions, Frisco Conference All Conference team and basketball homecoming king.

He attends Glorieta Baptist Church and is of the Bear Clan.



Chelsea Blaine Grayson

University of the Incarnate Word

Bachelor of Arts in Business and Marketing

Chelsea attended college with a full volleyball scholarship, maintaining a 3.6 GPA. She was a starter all four years, playing right side hitter for the Cardinal's Volleyball team.

She is a descendant of Alice Marshall Grayson, born April 1879 in Turkey Hollow, Township 9, near Eufaula.

She plans to continue her studies and earn her MBA.



Tyler Blake Harrison

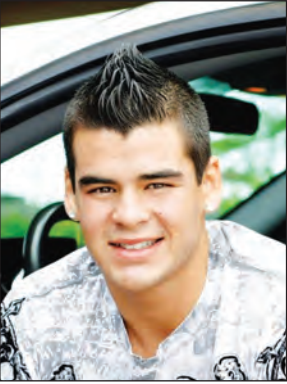
Glenpool High School

He is the son of Jason and Robin Harrison. Grand parents are Ron and Della Cherry of Glenpool and Lena Rivas of Palm Springs, Calif.

Tyler participated in football four years, track two years, one year of basketball and wrestling while maintaining a GPA of 3.8 throughout high school.

Tyler is of the Bird Clan

Tyler plans to attend Haskell Indian Nations University in Lawrence, Kansas where he will continue his football career.



Ross Cody Holland

Prosper High School

Ross is the son of John and Kristi Herndon Holland and the brother to Colton and Chance Holland. He is the grandson of Samarian Scott and the late Edward Herndon Soon Ja Ahn and the late Dr. Robert J. Holland.

Cody played football, baseball, and wrestled all through his school years. He was captain of the wrestling team. During his senior year, he had 30 wins with 24 of those from pins. He has played baseball his entire life, both on high school teams and on select teams, and has even helped coach younger teams. HE was active in FFA and enjoyed welding and woodworking. He won several awards in local FFA competitions.

He is of the Wotko (Raccoon) Clan.

He plans to attend college in the fall and major in education with an emphasis on history.



Monique Julissa Long

Northwest Classen High School

She is the daughter of Bobbie and DeWayne Walston and Marcos Gonzalez and the granddaughter of Brenda and Taylor Long.

Long is a member of the National Honor Society,O club, Debate Team, Vice President of the Student Council, President of the Native Knights Club, and Senior class President. Long was on the dance team “The Company” for three years, Pom Squad Captain, played one year of basketball, two years of volleyball and four years of softball for the NWC Knights.

She received Outstanding Native American Senior Award from OKCPS-Native American Student Services and a four-year scholarship to Oklahoma City University.

Monique is of the Thlopthlocco Tribal Twon and is of the Bird Clan.

She plans to attend college in the fall.



Joey Miller

Virginia Tech
Master of Arts Degree in Philosophy

He is the son of Perry and Maggie Miller and the grandson of Wayne and Lillian Miller - Bird.

He received the Margie Grene Award for the top student in this Master’s class.

He is of the Wind Clan.



Joey will teach a course at VT on global ethics while continuing to study philosophy and preparing to apply to Ph. D. programs. He will be an instructor for the 2012-2013 academic year at VT where will be teach a “Global Ethics or Morality and Justice” course.

Shawn Marie Partridge

University of Oklahoma
Master Degree of Social Work

Shawn is the daughter of Myra Partridge and Amos Partridge and the granddaughter of the late Amos Partridge, Sr., and Nora Watson Partridge.

She is a descendent of Locvpocv Tribal Town and Turtle Clan.



Shawn was a member of the Phi Alpha Honor Society and was awarded the Anne and Henry Zarrow School of Social Work Service Award.

She currently serves as a Project Coordinator with the Nation’s Family Violence Prevention Program.

Leah Arlene Pounds (Caesar)

Cardinal Stritch University
Bachelor’s Degree in Human Services Management

She is the daughter of Kevin Wesley and Wanda Pounds.

Leah has been accepted to the University of Milwaukee’s Graduate program and will begin her Master’s education this fall.



Janna P. Rolland

Sapulpa High School

She is the daughter of Robert and Jacqueline Rolland.

Janna attends Hickory Ground #2 Baptist Church and Kellyville Ceremonial Ground. She is active in the Native American Student Association, softball, and the Yuchi language program. She was Miss Yuchi Princess in 2011-2012.

She is of the Wolf Clan.

Janna plans to attend OSUIT for her basics in the fall.



Aaron Michael McGuire

Kellyville High School

Aaron is the son of Michael and Linda McGuire.

He is a member of South Heights Assembly of God Church in Sapulpa and participated in gold, cross country, baseball, Spanish Club and advanced computers.



Kaili Cheyenne Morgan Ortiz

Oklahoma City University
Bachelor of Science Degree in Nursing and a minor in Spanish

She was a recipient of the American Indian Scholarship and was graduated Cum Laude.

Kaili is the daughter of Kevin and Tiffany Morgan and the granddaughter of Leland Morgan and Sue Morgan Compier.

She is of the Wind Clan and the New Tulsa Tribal Town.



Hally E. Pembroke

Broken Arrow High School

She is the daughter of Albert and Tammy Pembroke and the granddaughter of Art and Fern Kerr.

Hally was active in STUCO-Executive Board, CO-LABASH, PTSA, Applied Leadership, NHS, was in the top 3 percent of her senior class.

She participated for 12 years in the BA Varsity Competitive Cheer Squad for Broken Arrow and served as Senior Co-Captain, Oklahoma Cheerleading Coaches Association-Academic All-State, NCA-National Cheer Champions, State Cheer-Runners-up (6A Large Co-Ed).



Zachary (Porky) Roberts

Morris High School

He is the son of Danny and Jenell Roberts and has one brother, Daniel (Eskimo) Roberts.

He received the Big 8 All Conference Player, first team All County player, 2012 Most Versatile Player of the Year. Porky was also nominated and selected to play Legion Baseball under Perry Keith. He has had this honor for the past three years of his high school career.

He also attended Green Country Vo-Tech and Nuyaka Indian Baptist Church.

Porky is a member of the Wind Clan.

He received scholarship to play baseball at Connors State College and plans to continue his education and baseball career at a university where he will major in physical education and become a high school baseball coach.



Joseph Buckner Scott

Holdenville High School

He is the son of Annette Lowe and nephew of Leslie Cook and Lynn Scott.

Joseph attends Holdenville First Indian Baptist Church and his tribal town is Tukvpvtce.

Joseph is of the Wind Clan.

He plans to attend Haskell Indian Nations University in the fall.



Cheyenne Autumn Stone

Jenks High School

She is the daughter of Tim and Leslie Stone and the granddaughter of Felix and Gloria Haynes and Opal Stone.

Her awards include 2009 USSSA Tournament All Star, SAS “A” Tournament All Star, ESPN’s Rise Magazine Top 10 Players in the Nation to Watch, 2010 Defensive Player of the year with no recorded errors, 2011 Top 2 Offensive Players of the Year with 42 RBIs and a .420 batting average. She ended the season with 8 home runs and was named all conference in slow and fast pitch.

She is a descendant of Hickory Ground.

Cheyenne earned a softball scholarship to Arkansas Tech University where she will attend in the fall.



Joseph Nick Tiger

Preston High School

He is the son of Sherry Tiger, brother of Kyla Tiger and the grandson of Judy Bruner, Jim Fife and James Tiger.

His ceremonial ground is Polecat and he is of the Deer Clan.

Joseph will be attending Tulsa Tech in the fall to study network systems.



Chasilee Dawn Van Buskirk-Crawford

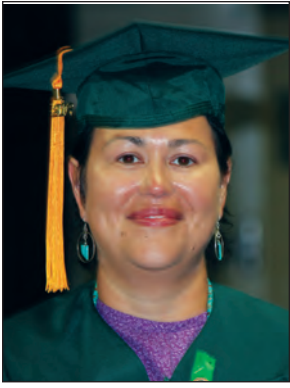
Wright State University

Bachelor of Science in Nursing

She is the daughter of Eleanor Irene Van Buskirk-Van Woudenberg and Russell Van Buskirk.

She was selected as an intern for cardiovascular acute care and has served as an LPN for 15 years.

Her tribal town is Kvcvte and she is of the Wind Clan.



Amanda Gayle Watkins

Charles Page High School

She is the daughter of Keith Watkins and Crystal Martinson and the granddaughter of Dale and Eva Watkins.

Amanda graduated with honors from the Tulsa Technology Center Graphic Arts Department, where she will be continuing her education this Fall.

She attends church at Hanna Assembly and is a member of the Bear Clan.



Bobbi LeAnn Welch

Inola High School

She is the daughter of Dean and Lorrie Welch and the granddaughter of the late Mary Lee Hoag (Scott) and late Robert Law and DeLoris Law.

Her ceremonial ground is Alabama and she is of the Wind Clan.

She plans to attend Haskell Indian Nations University in the fall.



Jamie Janiece Wilde-Barrientos

American Institute of Medical Technology

Diagnostic Medical Sonography

She is the daughter of Dr. James O. Wilde, Jr., and Nancy Ruede.

She is of the Bird Clan, the Broken Arrow Tribal Town and a visitor at many ceremonial grounds.



Anthony Blaine Wind Scott

Glenpool High School

He is the son of Tommy and Robyn Wind-Tiger and Calvin and Christa Scott and the grandson of Grover and Melody Wind and Georgia Jackson.

Anthony is the adored uncle of his 2-year-old niece, Lily Wind. Additionally, Anthony is an accomplished skateboarder and has won several contests and prize money.



He plans to attend Tulsa Community College this fall and eventually major in physical therapy.

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